

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:New immigration
laws cause
controversy.
OpinionA Nightmare on
Elm Street review.
Valley LifeValley men's swim
team end season
on a high note.
Sports

VALLEY STAR

the independent student newspaper

los angeles valley college's

MUSIC TO THE EARS

Dewberry and Matsumoto
perform last wednesday in
the music recital hall.

»4



lavalleystar.com

May 05, 2010

Volume 72 Issue 8



ANGELA BEACH/VALLEY STAR
DOVES FOR PEACE
100 white doves
were released as
a symbol of the
peace and unity
that immigrants
are seeking.

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION MARCH FOR REFORM

CARL
ROBINETTE

A law was recently passed in Arizona making it illegal to be an undocumented citizen in the state.

460,000

The estimated
number of
undocumented
people in Arizona.

60,000

Arizona law draws
a larger crowd for
the L.A. May Day
Rally. Surrounding
public safety officials
estimated
60,000. LAPD had
no official count.

A crowd of nearly 60,000 people marched through downtown Los Angeles for the annual May Day rally Saturday, pushing for immigration reform, spurred on by the controversial law passed in Arizona recently. The law, which coincides with federal immigration legislation, making it illegal to be in the state of Arizona without United States citizenship, requires law enforcement officers to ask people for their papers if they are suspected of being in the country illegally.

"I think the Latin community has had enough," said demonstrator Diana Rodriguez. "It's time to rise up. We're the target."

Many streets in downtown were barricaded along Broadway in anticipation of the march that brought waves of immigrants and their supporters to the steps of City Hall, chanting, blowing horns, and waving American flags. May Day rallies and celebrations are common around the world, and this year LA's was the largest in the country, according to Los Angeles Times.

The Arizona law that sparked national debate

when it passed in late April will not go into effect until August, 90 days after legislation. The state passed the law partly in response to its growing number of undocumented people estimated at 460,000. High crime rates in the state have been associated with people who are in the country illegally, and the drug cartels from Mexico.

"We cannot sacrifice our safety to the murderous greed of drug cartels," Arizona Governor Jan Brewer was quoted by LA Times the day before the bill was passed. "People across America are watching Arizona, seeing how we implement this law, ready to

jump on the slightest misstep.

The bill, SB 1070 has been criticized by many as racial profiling. In spite of the state's insistence that the bill is intended to protect the state from terrorists, and drug cartel, not segregate, tempers flared around the country most notably in the Latin community.

The crowd for Saturday's May Day event was the largest since 2006, although it was nearly half the size that police projected. It was a mostly peaceful event.

"It's nice to see all of us united for a common goal," said demonstrator Viridiana Luna, "It's profiling, racial profiling."

BIG CULTURAL CHANGES FOR VALLEY

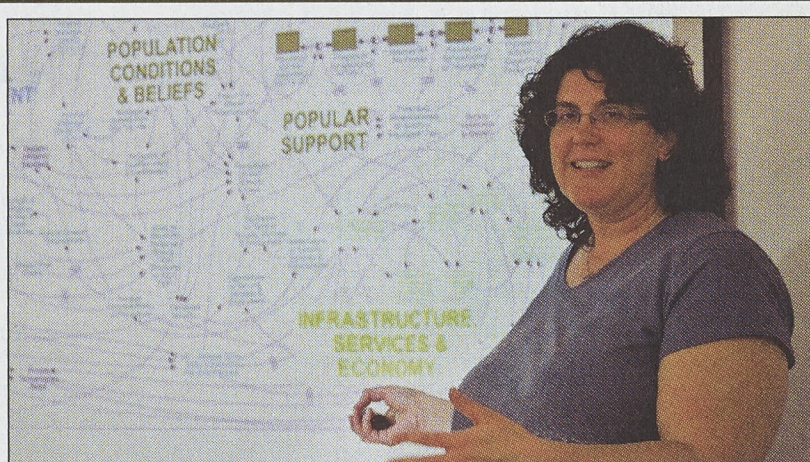
Committee prepares for
major changes in committee
structure at Valley College.

LUCAS THOMPSON
MANAGING EDITOR

In concurrence with the extensive outward construction taking place at Valley College is a considerably larger restructuring of how the school's inner workings operate.

"A year ago we realized we really needed to seriously study how we link planning and budgeting and make sure that we are doing it in the most effective way possible," Valley President Sue Carleo said.

The reorganization of Valley, which focuses on linking budget and planning, came about off a recommendation from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Soon after the recommendation, the "Big Picture Committee," which has also become the name and "divert to" slogan of the new plan, formed to execute and begin shifting towards the new, more



SAMUEL OKSNER, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR
THE BIG PICTURE - Rebecca Stein gave a presentation about "The Big Picture" Monday in the cafeteria conference room.

efficient operating method.

By adding and subtracting several committees at Valley, the committee has added an entirely new council called the Institutional Effectiveness Council (IEC). The idea is to have one council, being the College Operations Advisory Council (COAC), overlook committees like technology, student success, and space and work committees, while the other overlooks the new planning committees like the facilities and educational committees.

The COAC replaces what was the only standing council on campus, the College Council. Part of the motivation for the revamping of Valley's system was that the College Council

was not fit to overlook and communicate all aspects of the college to the President.

"The goal is not to have fewer committees [but] the right number of committees," Big Picture Committee member and Professor Rebecca Stein said. "We do realize it's a lot at once ... but it's easier to make people uncomfortable once."

As the newly added IEC was created on the idea of planning, so is the mindset of the committee. The group stresses a continual overlooking of the 5-year plan for the budget, while implementing annual budget plans for each department, something

[See MEETING, Page 2]

Town Hall Talks Safety

Another town hall meeting
is held for an update on
Valley's master plan.

GUADALUPE GONZALEZ
STAFF WRITER

Safety and sustainability are a priority in Valley College's revitalization projects according to the town hall meeting held in the cafeteria conference room April 27.

The plans are to provide safe and attractive access to the campus by means of landscaping and architecture, while making Valley a model green, sustainable campus, said principal architect David Hart of Steinberg Architects, Valley's master planner.

Hart stated Valley President Sue Carleo looks forward to it being a unique image of the college. "She wants it to be an integral part of its identity," said Hart.

One of the new features for safety is glazing, which is a material being used on new buildings to help see more visibly, especially at night. Blue emergency lights are being considered throughout the campus and

parking lots and, according to Valley college project manager Jim Rogers, so is at least one camera per building.

Safety per landscaping has already been addressed by the removal of bushes between the South Gym and Allied Health Science building, said Rogers. The architect said although arcades of trees are planned along pathways, the proposed landscaping should not provide shelter or "a place to hide" for assailants.

Terracing areas, especially the rodent infested ivy, and providing more open spaces for student leisure is planned for Monarch Square.

Considered water management practices include reserving reclaimed water for irrigation and using natural bio-swells to treat runoff. The bio-swells would retain and percolate water, then settle into aquifers or dump cleaner water into the Tujunga Wash alongside Valley.

Other plans discussed at the meeting were the expansion of the planetarium, a new liberal arts building by the old theatre, and the possible allocation of public art throughout campus.

[See TOWNHALL, Page 2]

PLAYOFF UPDATE

Monarch Baseball

Valley clinches conference title and ensures a spot in the playoffs. The team plays Rio Hondo this Friday in game one of a three-game series.

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE



"Iron Man 2"

Read the exclusive Iron Man 2 movie review online.

ONLINE SLIDESHOW



Photos of the Week: May Day Rally

These features and more
can be found in full @
www.lavalleystar.com

THE LOW DOWN...

CLEANING UP AMERICA

It's a dirty job, but Obama
has to do it.

CRISTINA
SERRATO

When President Obama took office in 2009 he inherited a trillion dollar deficit, the worst economic recession since the 80s, a war on foreign soil and a health care system in need of an overhaul.

History forgotten tends to repeat itself. Unfortunately, the Exxon Valdez oil spill of 1989 was only foreshadowing of what was to come if "Big Oil" didn't take precautions and prepare for the worst-case scenario. On April 20 the "Deepwater Horizon" exploration rig burst into flames, killing 11 workers in the Gulf of Mexico and resulted in an oil spill of about 1.6 million gallons of crude oil. On May 02, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration closed the areas of Louisiana and Florida estimated to be most affected by the spill for 10 days.

"We're dealing with a massive and potentially unprecedented environmental disaster," Obama said, from the Venice Coast Guard Center in Louisiana on Sunday. "Let me be clear: BP is responsible for this leak. BP will be paying the bill, but as President of the United States I'm going to spare no effort to respond to this crisis for as long as it continues and we will spare no resource to clean up whatever damage is caused."

There has been little success in cleaning the spill by skimming, burning or using chemicals to

[See COLUMN, Page 2]

THE VALLEY STAR INFO & STAFF

THE VALLEY STAR is published by students of the Journalism and Photography classes as a learning experience, offered under the college journalism instructional program.

Under appropriate state and federal court decisions these materials are free from prior restraint by virtue of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Materials published herein, including any opinions expressed and advertisements should not be interpreted as the position of the Los Angeles Community College District, the college, or any office or employee thereof.

Editorials are the opinion of the editorial board only and do not necessarily represent those of the entire staff. **Columns** are the opinion of the writer. **Letters** are the opinions of the reader.

Editorial and Advertising Offices are located at 5800 Fulton Avenue Valley Glen, CA 91401 (818) 947-2576.

CO-EDITORS IN CHIEF
Israel Gutierrez
Josh Spence

MANAGING EDITOR
Lucas Thompson

COPY EDITOR
Jamie Norried

OPINION EDITOR
Kelly Davis

VALLEY LIFE EDITOR
David Motte

PHOTO EDITOR
Samuel Oksner

CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Grettel Cortes

STAFF WRITERS
Vince Dorin, Giovanni Garcia, Guadalupe Gonzalez, Kate Holzhauer, Carolina Leon, Susan Mashevich, Carl Robinette, Ruben Saenz, Jonathan Seeley, Cristina Serrato, Bahnan Yamin

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS
Angela Beach, Varughan Chapanian, Mike Elman, Ricardo Varela

ILLUSTRATOR
Austin Carpenter

ONLINE MANAGER
Ivan Zuniga

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Chip Rudolph

ADVISERS
Bill Dauber, Rod Lyons

Valley's Best and Brightest are Recognized

Students were honored for their good grades in front of an audience.

CARL ROBINETTE
STAFF WRITER

Valley College students who made the President's Honor and Dean's Lists were recognized in front of family and peers for their scholastic achievements at the Dean's Reception in Monarch Hall April 26.

Students who achieved a GPA of 3.5 or higher for 2010 Fall semester were placed on the Dean's List, and those who've maintained this status for three straight semesters were placed on the Presidents Honor List, and received a commemorative pin.

"This event is important because it recognizes, in front of our parents, relatives and peers, our hard work and achievements," said Tau Alpha Epsilon President José

Estrada, who helped organize and usher the event.

Marcella Ayala, a Valley alumnus who now works in Mayor Villaraigosa's office, was the guest speaker, and President Susan Carleo was also there to make comments. Food and refreshments were offered as well as a performance from Valley's Choir.

"It's one of the few times when the college and myself, as president get to take time in public to honor our students who've achieved academically," said Carleo about the reception. She went on to say, "It was a great event. It's always uplifting."

The reception is held every spring and fall and reflects students' grades from the previous semester. Being on either list is a boost for students' transcripts when applying to a university or other college.

"What makes the reception important is not the notation that I receive on my transcript," said Estrada who is on the President's

Honor List himself, "but the feeling of accomplishment I feel when I go on stage and walk towards the presidents of the ASU and LAVC to receive a symbolic honor's pin."

TOWNHALL

Continued from page 1

Carleo addressed concerns of traffic due to the planned parking structure on campus.

"When they [Valley residential neighbors] heard that we're placing a parking structure in the campus, they were very pleased," said Carleo, who said the structure will keep traffic away from neighborhood streets.

"One of the challenges we face now is the sequencing of the projects," said Carleo.

Although the master plan is complete, meetings are still held to analyze the plans and move things around. The next meeting is Thursday, May 6 at 2:30 p.m. in the president's conference room.

MEETING

Continued from page 1

according to Carleo, hasn't been done since she arrived in the 70s. The idea focuses on a more "holistic" view where all departments on campus will plan necessities like staffing and tech needs each year, while flowing this information to the appropriate committees. An operation the big picture sees as a huge shift in strategic planning.

"We are looking for a huge cultural change here," Big Picture Committee member and Dean of Research and Development Michelle Fowles said.

The "new picture" will take effect July 1st of this year, according to Carleo. The timeline was set in hopes of being a fully functioning system prior to the next accreditation evaluation in spring of 2013.

"It seemed quite obvious to me that it was really important for us to start moving very quickly on this issue of planning and budgeting and how it interacts because that is what an effective organization does," Carleo said.

In Memoriam

Jackie Harless-Chang
passed away at the age of 67.

JOSH SPENCE
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Former Valley College teacher Jackie Harless-Chang passed away April 17 at the age of 67. Born Feb. 12, 1943, Chang was first hired as a full-time instructor in the Los Angeles Community College District in 1989, first teaching at Valley College as a part-time instructor. She became a full-time instructor at Valley in 1999.

Chang shared her love of education at the university level by teaching at California State University, Northridge and at California State University, Los

Angeles where she graduated from with both bachelors and masters degrees. She taught in business education and computer applications while also developing online education classes in computer applications.

She also served as the 2000-2001 President of Delta Pi Epsilon and Delta Kappa Chapter, a national honorary professional graduate society for business educators. Chang was also a member of Pi Lambda Theta, an international honor society and professional association in education. She was a member of the California Business Education Association, the National Business Education Association, Los Angeles Chapter, and a member of the United States Chapter of the International Business Society for Business Education.

COLUMN

Continued from page 1

deter the spread while oil continues to leak into the Gulf of Mexico. BP, owner of the rig, had decided to build three 74-ton domes to contain the leak, estimated to be finished and working by May 12. The domes would pump the oil out of the water and stop any more leaks. Though BP has deployed over 3,000 workers to aid in clean up efforts, the grunt of the work

will be left for Obama to clean up. The Hurricane Katrina survivors of Louisiana face another disaster and will surely need the government's assistance to cope.

"We are taking full responsibility for the spill and we will clean it up," said BP Group Chief Executive Tony Hayward.

Hopefully, the lessons learned from this tragic event will stay with Americans long enough so history has some chance of not repeating itself.

Don't forget

Mother's Day

Visit us online for great deals

(and other special occasions)

WWW.TALOBEOLECTRONICS.COM

Large selections on LCDs, Plasmas, Cell Phones, MP3 Players and more.




BE THE ENERGY THAT
MAKES A TWO-YEAR-OLD
TERRIBLE.

Within every one of us is the power to heal. It's called marrow, and thousands of patients could potentially be saved by a marrow transplant.

Join the Be The Match® marrow registry and fight for those with life-threatening diseases. Who knows? You could be the one to save a life.

Take the first step at BeTheMatch.org.

BE  THE MATCH®

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The views expressed on this page are solely those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Valley Star, its instructors, editors, staff or those of Los Angeles Valley College, its administrators, faculty, staff, or students.

LAW & IMMIGRATION:

BOLDLY GOING WHERE IT SHOULD NOT GO

We really don't need any more ice at this fiesta of a debate.

ISRAEL GUTIERREZ
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

Almost everyone subscribes to a set of beliefs and ideology. In an effort to remain sane and levelheaded, it's always good to stay ambiguous and contradictory in the interpretations of laws and politics. The recent passage of the Arizona Law is no exception. You can't argue that it's not a horrible yet effective law. It's a thorny subject and unless you steer clear, you're either a right-wing nut or a liberal loon. Unfortunately, it's the nuts and the loons that are trying to pass legislation on illegal immigration, and out comes the Arizona Law.

Critics say the law will lead to discrimination and racial profiling. Supporters say it will finally allow immigration laws to be enforced. But in the end, it's become so politicized and magnified by extreme points of view that the bigger picture of illegal immigration has been lost in the debate.

For advocates of 'immigrants' who deplore this law, you brought this upon yourselves. Anything that stipulates deportation for not being in the country legally is not racist or 'unfair.' Laws are laws and illegal is illegal. Those who will do anything to deport current illegal immigrants living here by any means necessary such as ignoring civil, human, and the Bill of Rights seem to have forgotten they are in America. They'd have better luck deporting these 'illegal immigrants' from their native country where rights probably aren't clearly defined, if even existent.

This bill is nothing more than what Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano labeled it as, a 'cry of frustration' with current immigration laws and enforcement and the lack of involvement from those with rational minds who are able to bring comprehensive and reasonable legislation for the country. Those who fail to see how the new Arizona immigration law can be used to discriminate, creating a "police state" that can violate civil rights of Arizona residents and citizens who appear Hispanic, should have no place in politics.

While I would like to believe 95 percent of Americans are rational and just as confused as I am when it comes to what to do about illegal immigration, I am 50 percent sure there is that five percent that are just hell bent in their convictions as to what is the best solution. The discourse of illegal immigration can be summed up into two equally ridiculous points of views. And yes, you probably know someone that's been reduced to either view.

On one side you have those eager to create an anti-immigration "A-Team" style task force to hunt and deport all illegals currently living in the United States, and on the other side those willingly ready to recruit and grant immediate amnesty to all illegals arriving and currently living in the United States.

Try asking them about what to do about those already in the United States and you'll either get, "Rip them from their homes and families, send them to Mexico regardless of where they actually came from and confiscate all their money and property," or "Let's give them free school, college, medical insurance, public housing and impose affirmative action legislation to force companies to hire them regardless of qualifications."

They even have an answer on how to secure the border. "Mission Protecting America": Build a 12-foot electric fence along the border loaded with automated heat-seeking missile turrets. Then there is "The America For All Plan," which will remove all security at the border and throw a fiesta for anyone who crosses it after granting them immediate citizenship.

But here's the kicker: neither is wrong or flawed. Tell them they are and you'll either be branded a terrorist-loving, communist, anti-American socialist or condemned as an uneducated, toothless, gun-toting, nativist bigot for opposing their plan.

I suggest if you ever meet people of either of the above camps, please don't engage or argue with them. All it does is make them go to greater lengths to defend their position and insanity.



Give us your tired, your weak, your poor, as long as you are not illegal or in Arizona.

JOSH SPENCE
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

It isn't the question of immigration reform that has sparked so much criticism surrounding SB1070 as much as the heavy handed approach it entails and the complete lack of civil liberties involved.

The Arizona Senate Bill that was passed on April 23 creates a state misdemeanor crime for an illegal alien to be in the United States without registration documents with police targeting people who might hire, shelter or transport illegal aliens.

Another facet of SB1070 requires police to make an attempt, when practical, to determine a person's immigration status if there is reasonable suspicion that the person is an illegal alien. Police may, without a warrant, arrest a person if there is probable cause that the person is an alien not in possession of required registration documents.

This is where things go horribly wrong. I understand Arizona's frustration, but this policy is born out of rashness and frustration. Political analysts call this the broadest and strictest anti-illegal immigration measure in decades. Strict is great, broad is not. If law is being created, there is no need for a gray area.

Take the burden the Arizona police have yoked upon them now. In any given situation, an officer now has to determine if that person is an illegal alien. If you go past the speed limit, you get busted. That's black and white. The role of police officers and judges is to carry out the law, not interpret it. Doing so gives jurisdictional power to the person and not the law that we all live by.

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer commented on the law stating, "We must enforce the law evenly, and without regard to skin color, accent or social status."

That is a bigger pipedream than thinking passing this law won't keep people from crossing the border. Brewer went on to mention she would issue an executive order requiring additional training for all officers on how to implement SB1070 without engaging in racial profiling. One would think that the executive order would be in place at the time of signing such a huge legislation. This is further proof that this law was made in frustration and that Republican leadership is placating the masses without any thought of real reform.

Another interesting wrinkle in SB1070 is that it is now a crime for anyone to be hired from a vehicle which "blocks or impedes the normal movement of traffic." This is tacit racial profiling. Cruising by any random Home Depot and you'll see a swarm of workers waiting to be hired. It's no secret that you don't see blacks or whites there. So this law really is targeting a very specific demographic. Regardless of citizenship or color, this policy is taking valuable money away from people who sorely need it.

Bottom line, this law will not generate the results that some citizens of Arizona are looking for. People in Miami realize that Cubans are willing to risk their life for the chance of a better one in America. It's the same thing in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and California. Considering our country is the great melting pot, we need to reexamine immigration reform, but our actions need to be proactive, not reactive.

THE SIMPLE TRUTH...

REFORM IN ARIZONA A GOOD THING

It's about time states start taking control of immigration.

JAMIE NORRIED



In my opinion, the only way to reduce illegal immigration is to stop giving automatic citizenship to children born of illegal immigrants, stop providing tax-free jobs, and stop endowing welfare to those illegal beneficiaries. Since the federal government will never take control of this situation, it's up to each state to reform their own legislation to suit their needs.

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer has taken the initiative by signing new legislation, which has some people confused and angered.

While the provisions are intended to "discourage and deter the unlawful entry and presence of aliens and economic activity by persons unlawfully present in the United States," opponents like the American Civil Liberties Union say the policy sacrifices the civil liberties of millions of people living and working in Arizona. They're asking U.S. citizens to take a stand and let their representatives know they reject this "un-American" approach. As far as I'm concerned, illegal immigrants in this country do not have the civil liberties bestowed to us by our Constitution.

Given the ACLU's comments and other opponents who say the bill will foster racial profiling, I am concerned that—like every other bill—people really aren't reading Senate Bill 1070.

What it does say is, "A law enforcement officer, without a warrant, may arrest a person if the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has committed any public offense that makes the person removable from the United States." Perhaps it does open doors for racial profiling, but this is something the legal citizens of our black communities have been suffering for decades.

Under the new law, it is "unlawful" for a motor vehicle operator to stop on a street, roadway, or highway to attempt to hire and pick up unauthorized aliens for work. It is unlawful for an alien to solicit or accept work by any verbal or non-verbal agreement.

That means, if a cop sees you pull up to the street corner by Home Depot and pick up one of the laborers, he can now legally pull you over, and not only arrest the guy you picked up, but slap you with a misdemeanor and a fine of no more than \$2,500. Of course if you're hiring this illegal to perform labor for your business, your business license will be revoked for up to 10 days—an even greater financial burden.

Get over it. If you're legal and you have your papers on you, which is now required, you have no problem. If you don't, you shouldn't be here anyway.

E-mail Jamie Norried at j.norried@lavalleystar.com. Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

ASU ELECTION ALLEGATIONS: ETHNICITY VS. QUALITY

The ASU election results came in last week but not without bringing a flurry of scandalous allegations with them.

KELLY DAVIS
OPINION EDITOR

The recent ASU elections have left students not only livid amidst talk of unethical campaigning and racially biased voting, but utterly fearful of the complete lack of experience their new ASU president has.

"It's sad that ethnicity won over quality," said Angie Lombana, a Valley student. "Something similar happened a couple of years ago. A guy, also Armenian, I think, came out of nowhere and won. It sucks."

Many students had no idea who Ishkhanuhi "Hanna" Matevosyan was prior to campaigning

for ASU president. In her first full semester at Valley College, Matevosyan had not previously been involved on campus nor had she been seen at any ASU events or meetings.

Regardless of her lack of experience, her "social capital" as she refers to it on her Facebook page, made sure Matevosyan was the forerunner with typical smear campaigns. A posting on her Facebook wall by fellow Armenian Suren Ayrapetyan reads, "EVERYONE WHO GOES TO LAVC YOU BETTER VOTE FOR Hanna Matevosyan AS ASU PRESIDENT...IT'S THE ONLY WAY VALLEY CAN BECOME A BETTER COLLEGE...EVERYONE ELSE IS LIKE GEORGE BUSH FOR USA..."

Granted, Ayrapetyan is only as credible as his other posts on his own page, such as, "I get more ass than a public toilet seat," and "what would happen if we gave cupid a wedgie?" But Matevosyan's "social capital" was on a mission and they achieved it any way they could.

Some students feel that the "in your face" campaigning Matevosyan enacted was not only unethical but also unfair. She appeared to have the entire Armenian student body making sure her fliers were the only ones visible on campus.

"Jessica [Gallardo] complained about her posters being brought down," said Nancy Pineda, ASU Commissioner of Ethnic and Cultural Affairs.

While students are casting their votes, candidates are not permitted to be within 20 feet of the voter booths to prevent them from campaigning for last minute votes or swaying the previously made up minds of the student body.

"I didn't see it," said Pineda, "but I think they took Hanna out [from the off limits area] at one point."

According to Pineda, the ASU board had confidence in Gallardo as a result of all the great work she has done this past year with

environmental affairs and her involvement in the Political Action Committee.

"As far as Hanna, we don't have any comments...it'll all be proved next year," said Pineda. "I hope she has experience outside as a leader because that's going to really define how the board goes...what I am kind of scared of, and that's how politics are, is that false promises are made to gain that vote."

Apparently, as evidenced both here in the United States and in the Middle East, you can't have an election without allegations of voter fraud and lack of ethics.

Matevosyan posted on her Facebook page the following message, "once you give me the chance, I'll be honored to use my array of skills to serve you."

Okay, Hanna, the student body is ready to see your array of skills. Because you may have won their vote, but it doesn't seem like you've won their confidence.

VALLEY VIEW | WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS ON THE RECENT IMMIGRATION BILL PASSED IN ARIZONA?



"I think it's just wrong. If you're brown they're just gonna stop you."

- PALOMA GONZALEZ
LAW



"There should be some other way they can handle it or they could work things out."

- RHINA PANIAGUA
PRE-MED



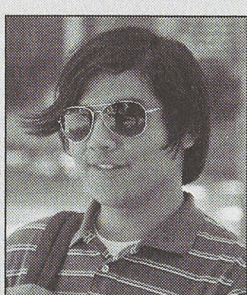
"Black people that are trying to come over, can't, so it's okay for everyone else to?"

- STEPHANIE RINEARSON
NURSING



"I don't know that much about it, but from what I heard it's a pretty racist bill."

- CAMERON YOUNG
SOCIOLOGY



"I don't know anything about that, really."

- JUAN CHAVEZ
APPLIED MATHEMATICS

PHOTOS BY SAMUEL OKSNER, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

GOT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR?

Letters to the editor can be sent to: editor@lavalleystar.com or submitted online at www.lavalleystar.com. Letters must be limited to 300 words and may be edited for content. Full name and contact information must be supplied in order for letters to be printed. Send by Thursday for the following week's issue.

LAVC Events

May 03 - May 07

Monday - Friday
TAE Book & Food Drive
Various locations - Library, Cafeteria, Writing Center, EOPS/CARE Tutoring Center, ASU Office, English Dept. Conference Room
Contact: TAE
tae.lavc@gmail.com

May

Wednesday, 5th
TAE Apple Awards
@ 1 - 3 p.m. (Monarch Hall)
Contact: Al Zucker
(818) 947-2586

Thursday, 6th

LAVC Town Hall Meeting on the "Big Picture"
Committee Restructuring
@ 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. (Fireside Room)
Contact: President's Office
(818) 947-2321

"Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)" Career Speaker Workshop Series
Presented by the Career/Transfer Center
@ 1 - 2 p.m. (Foreign Language 102)
Contact: Career/Transfer Center (818) 947-2646

LAVC Science Speaker Series Speaker's Reception for Suzie Krum
Presented by the LAVC Biology Department & Associated Student Union
@ 4:30 - 5:30 pm (Allied Health & Sciences - Room 210) Free, RSVP required
Contact: heldcl@lavc.edu

"The Protective Effects of Estrogen in Bone" LAVC Science Speaker Series
Presented by the LAVC Biology Department & Associated Student Union
@ 6 - 7 p.m. (Monarch Hall)
Contact: Pamela Byrd-Williams
(818) 947-2880

Friday, 7th

Afternoon Green Tea Talk (How big is your carbon footprint? How can you reduce it?)
@ 1:30 - 3 p.m. (Professional Development Center - Bungalow 83)
Contact: Roana Thornock
(818) 947-2455

! THINK TRANSFER

May
Wednesday, 5th
Undecided Major/Career workshop
@ 1 - 2 p.m.

Thursday, 6th
Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Workshop
@ 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (Foreign Language 102)
Undecided Major/Career Workshop
@ 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, 10th
How to Transfer Workshop
@ 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 11th
How to Transfer Workshop
@ 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

All events held in the Career/Transfer Center (Administration 126) unless otherwise indicated.

For Sign-ups and further information
Call (818) 947-2646.

Piano and Cello Duel During Free Concert Wednesdays

Free Concert Wednesdays present another proficient performance.

DAVID MOTTE
VALLEY LIFE EDITOR

An eclectic instrumental duet featuring cello and piano performed in Valley College's Music Recital Hall Wednesday afternoon, playing various sonatas by modern composers Claude Debussy, Benjamin Britten and Astor Piazzolla.

Carter Dewberry and Kanae Matsumoto graced the halls of the music building with eccentric melodies, at times reminiscent of a Danny Elfman film score with eerie bass lines, yet whimsical overtones. Dewberry's

impressive, though unusual cello playing was subtly complimented by Matsumoto's more traditionally classic piano styles.

"Kanae adds the most gorgeous touches on piano," said Dewberry onstage. "You're going to see things that I'm doing that don't look natural."

At times, Dewberry's instrument sounded more like a dobro guitar than a cello. Some of her playing was so erratic that after every set, more and more bow hairs could be seen hanging from her initially immaculate bow. At one point she actually dropped her bow mid-performance.

"Cello Sonata in C, Op.5" by Benjamin Britten offered the two musicians to blow off some musical steam, involving the duet in a melodic duel between the two instruments. The instruments overlapped each other in musical argumentation before the cello finally overcame and took the last word (or note).

"It's a very schizophrenic set we are playing because more modern composers tend to have a shorter attention span," joked Dewberry onstage.

For their final piece, the two performed "Le Grand Tango" by the king of tango himself, Astor Piazzolla. Worthy to keep Gomez and Morticia Adams on the dance floor,



RICARDO VARELA | VALLEY STAR

HANDIWORK - Cellist Carter Dewberry forgoes her bow and limbers up her fingers for the hand-plucked "Pizzicato" movement of Britten's Cello Sonata in C. Dewberry was accompanied by pianist, Kanae Matsumoto.

the tune was a good note to end on before Dewberry's bow ran out of hair.

Free Concert Wednesdays will continue throughout the month of May featuring the

Winnetka Winds performing May 5 and the Classical Guitar Duo performing May 12, both at 1 p.m. in the Music Recital Hall with free admission.

The Commercialization of Kids Shown at Valley

Valley students and public attended the screening of the newly released documentary.

GUADALUPE GONZALEZ
STAFF WRITER

Nearly 250 people attended the screening of "Consuming Kids: The Commercialization of Kids," a documentary about the

advertising practices on children, Wednesday afternoon in Monarch Hall.

The open-to-the-public screening, sponsored by the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood and Valley's Child Development, Psychology, Sociology, and Anthropology programs was held early in the afternoon. Elmida Baghdaserians, associate professor of child development at Valley, organized the event and decided to show the

film because she said it is one that speaks to many, old or young.

"We're all consumers, but it's interesting to see how we are all affected by marketing," said Baghdaserians. "Specifically, the evil ambitions in the case of children."

Baghdaserians hoped that by showing the film, a coalition of students and faculty would form to become advocates against those ambitions. She said that children don't have the ability or guidance

to make decisions and choices, so the constant advertising to them does not help them appropriately.

Liberal studies student Carissa Campfield attended the screening and agrees with Baghdaserians.

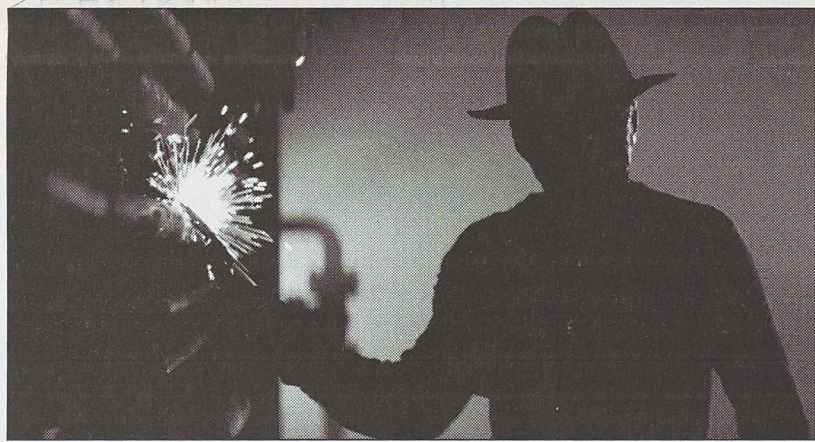
"They don't have the best intention of the kids," she said about advertising agencies. "It's only about self, self, self."

After the film, there was an open forum where attendees discussed the film with faculty members from the sponsoring depart-

ments. A common question asked was "How can students, as future teachers and parents, make a difference?" Students sought how they can help schools become more aware of marketing companies' tricks and unethical doings toward children.

Many students signed their names on a list to join a coalition as Baghdaserians had hoped, and according to her, other faculty members have also shown interest and support toward the cause.

A New Nightmare



COURTESY OF NIGHTMAREONELMSTREET.COM

A new story and a new Freddy leave the audience yearning for the old hat.

JOSH SPENCE
CO-EDITOR IN CHIEF

To simply say that Michael Bay's dreadful reboot of "A Nightmare on Elm Street" fails in every aspect of what makes movies watchable is completely ignoring the fact that Bay and director Samuel Bayer committed the ultimate sin by deconstructing the myths and ethos of cinema's favorite boogeyman.

The artistic reason behind rebooting major franchises is to bring a dormant character back from the vaults while adding subtle wrinkles to the storyline that fans would want to see. Bay must not have gotten the memo by eschewing everything good about the original series in lieu of a more modern, yet clichéd story that reeks of mediocrity.

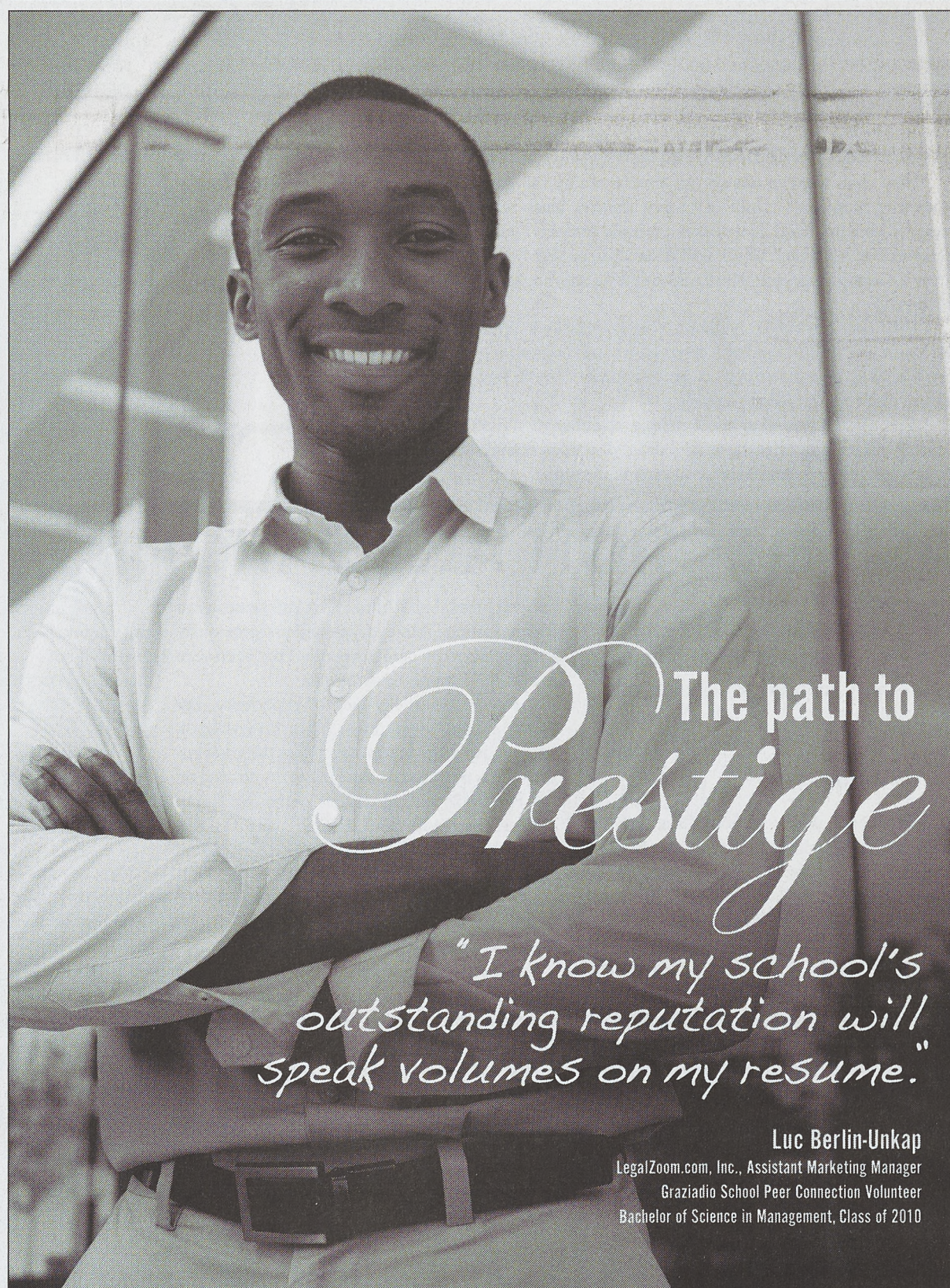
"Nightmare" never approaches even coming close to frightening due to the massive botch job in every facet of the iconic Freddy Krueger. By putting him in the shadows or in extreme close-ups, the audience really can't be menaced by the grotesque appearance. In the few shots Bayer does show of Krueger, he resembles Kevin Spacey in "Pay it Forward" more than anything else.

Also notably missing is the macabre, sardonic, almost vaudevillian flair Krueger unleashes

while toying with his latest victim. Jackie Earle Haley's decision to play the titular character with only malice and vengeance so heavy handed is like putting ketchup on steak to drown out the flavor. The voice is so abominable that it almost seems that Rorschach and the Dark Knight had an ugly baby, gave it a sweater, fedora and kept it in the boiler room.

A considerable misstep was the choice of Samuel Bayer as director. The first time feature film director fell into the pitfall of using recent remakes like "The Amityville Horror," "The Hills Have Eyes" and "Friday the 13th" for means of inspiration rather than a manual of what not to do. Another glaring omission of is the absence of over the top, ludicrous yet creative death sequences. In a supernatural setting that this film has, it's almost irresponsible to not have the buxom blonde cheerleader be transformed into a cockroach before Freddy squishes her into oblivion. Losing their lunch is what the audience paid for and the all too predictable loud noise followed by jump cut deprived them of that good time.

As a director, it's one thing to add a certain style to leave your mark on a franchise. It's another thing to completely strip everything out, gut it and leave a shell of a film so much so that the name is the only thing recognizable. If horror films weren't dead before, they are now. The only nightmare left is the upcoming sequel.



The path to
Prestige

"I know my school's outstanding reputation will speak volumes on my resume."

Luc Berlin-Unkap

LegalZoom.com, Inc., Assistant Marketing Manager
Graziadio School Peer Connection Volunteer
Bachelor of Science in Management, Class of 2010

The Bachelor of Science in Management Program

Prestigious degree program respected for its academic excellence will open doors to new opportunities. Engaging, collaborative classes, experience-driven curriculum and values-centered leadership inspire you to take the higher ground.

Encino Graduate Campus Information Sessions:
Wednesday, May 19 & Wednesday, June 2

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
Graziadio School of Business and Management

Higher Learning

Text LAVC to 30364 for more information. bschool.pepperdine.edu

COAST TO COAST DELI

Brent's Deli in Northridge serves up New York style Deli food.

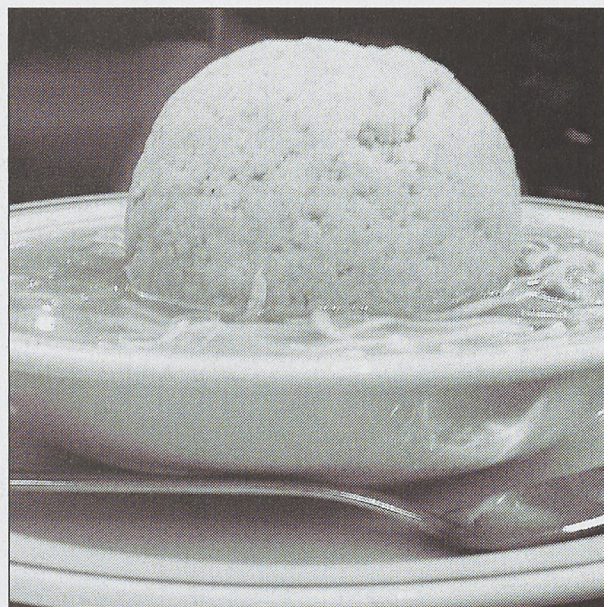
KATE HOLZHAUER
STAFF WRITER

A visit to Brent's Deli in Northridge is more of a weekend pilgrimage than a lunch-time sandwich run. It is not directly off of the freeway and parking in the vast strip mall which houses Brent's can be as difficult to obtain as courtside seats to the Lakers. But the exceptional, traditional deli sandwiches are well worth the struggle.

Once the quest for a seat has ended, things move quickly. Good, fresh pickles materialize on the table as if by magic and soup with matzo balls as big as regulation softballs splashes onto the table just seconds after it is ordered. Drinks are refilled before they go empty and impossibly well stuffed sandwiches arrive at the table within minutes. The waiters at Brent's seem to understand that after waiting 30 minutes for a table, the food needs to come quickly.

The menu at Brent's is massive, and can be a bit overwhelming. The key to getting the best possible meal, despite the plethora of choices, is to go with the sandwiches. It is easy enough to find a steak or roast chicken at any number of places in town, but there are few places where one can find corned beef, pastrami, or a well constructed Reuben east of New York City. The sandwiches at Brent's are just that—well seasoned, on good, crusty rye bread, and so full of good meat that they are a challenge to eat, especially when slathered in Russian dressing or brown mustard. The one break from tradition is the very Californian addition of a slice of tomato to just about all of the sandwiches. There is no place for a tepid, mealy slice of tomato on a good New York style sandwich. Really, not every meal needs a vegetable. Once removed, the sandwiches are to die for.

LA is a good city for delis. Just about everyone in town seems to have their favorite. And some of them are even easy to get a seat at. But Brent's offers up sandwiches that are exceptional enough to make it



PHOTOS BY GRETTEL CORTES, CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER | VALLEY STAR
(ABOVE) **MUCHO MATZO** - A giant matzo ball adorns a steamy chicken stock with noodles and carrots.

(BELOW) **NEW YORK STYLE** - Overflowing with corn beef and pastrami, stuffed between two slices of rye bread, this Brent's Deli creation is an all-time favorite.



well worth the trip, without the Hollywood attitude and accompanying prices. If waiting in line for a great deli sandwich is a problem, Brent's is much less crowded during the week and comes with the added bonus of a cast of regulars that are quite amazing characters.

TWO CENTS FROM SPENCE WIKIPEDIA TOO BIG TO FAIL

Encyclopedia giant Wikipedia needs to start deciding what is really information.

JOSH SPENCE



People read it to kill massive hours of lag time, geeks use it to solve age old debates about how many actual episodes of "Star Trek" were created and students use it as factual research for countless essays. Like the iPod and TiVo, the general public has come to take for granted that Wikipedia will just be there for our disposal.

For the record, having an endless fountain of knowledge that is available at the click of a mouse is the perfect tool for anyone living in the 21st century. According to their own Web Site, Wikipedia proclaims that "Nature," a scientific journal, conducted an investigation and results showed that the material on the Web Site is close to being as accurate as "Encyclopedia Britannica." Given the massive amount of material being uploaded daily, Wikipedia works better with volume than the aforementioned encyclopedia.

But therein lies the problem. For as accurate as they are, Wikipedia "makes no guarantee of validity." This can be problematic considering so many people rely on this Web Site for general knowledge. Co-founder Jimmy Wales has made consistent public statements that encyclopedias are not any type of authoritative, or primary sources of information.

It's ironic that Wales has such a disclaimer for his online encyclopedia, considering if you type "encyclopedia" into Wikipedia it states, "an encyclopedia is a type of reference work, a compendium holding information from either all branches of knowledge or a particular branch of knowledge." Furthermore, the article states "encyclopedias and dictionaries have been researched and written by well-educated, well-informed content experts." This definition contrasts with Wikipedia's policy of the user anonymity and growing concerns of inauthentic information.

As big a fan as I am of Wikipedia, these two aspects are what derail the Web Site from getting any respect. For example, it's another late night of surfing the web and I'm riding a wave of articles pertaining to extra-

terrestrial life. The beautiful thing about Wikipedia is they have a page dedicated only to specific types of aliens that have made contact with humans. Clicking on the link for "Nordic Aliens," I come to learn that they are from the Pleiades star cluster and apparently Aryan in nature.

According to Wikipedia, Jonathan Manner, one of the few residents of the United States to have reportedly received contact with the Nordic Aliens, stated in an interview that, "the Venusians created the majority of Earth's species, and while trying to genetically engineer a super-race, accidentally replaced one of the growth hormones with some form of Nordic fecal matter and created the Jewish race."

The next sentence reveals that, "Jonathan is an active member of the Aryan Brotherhood and has also been arrested several times on battery charges related to anti-Semitism."

There is no galaxy that would consider that material to be beneficial to anyone for anything. Secondly, the sources are from random books of conspiracy theories, which by its own name dictates no validity.

The "final solution" is simple. Wikipedia needs to clean up its act or quit calling themselves an encyclopedia. I know that Jimmy Wales wants his cake and wants to eat it too, but with the Internet constantly expanding and fodder flying at supersonic speeds, genuine information is at a premium.

E-mail Josh Spence at co-editor@lavalleystar.com
Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

**INTERESTED IN
ADVERTISING
IN THE VALLEY
STAR?**

**CALL US @
818.359.9324
OR EMAIL
ADVERTISING@
LAVALLEYSTAR.COM**

CENTER FOR ADULT AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



It's time to finish your degree.

APU offers accelerated programs that make it easy to complete your bachelor's degree.

Liberal Studies

The B.A. in Human Development (HDEV) offers prospective elementary school and special education teachers valuable subject-matter preparation, enabling them to reach their goals of becoming educators.

Applied Management

With the versatile B.S. in Organizational Leadership (BSOL), working professionals gain relevant business strategies, empowering them to advance in today's competitive market and become effective leaders.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Complete your degree in 15 months (BSOL) or 19 months (HDEV).
- Choose to earn your degree online, or attend class only one night a week at a location near you.
- Applicants for the HDEV program must be at least 22 years of age; BSOL program applicants must be at least 25.

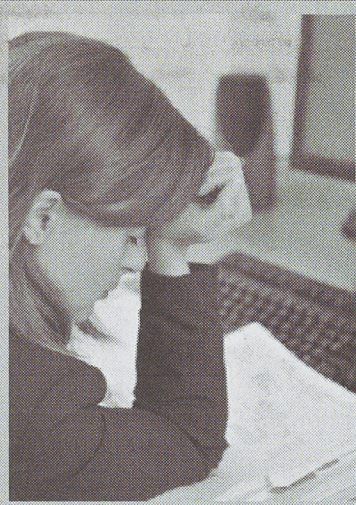
Find out about the next HDEV or BSOL program start date. Contact us today!

CALL (626) 815-5301
CLICK www.apu.edu/explore/caps
EMAIL aps@apu.edu



AZUSA | HIGH DESERT | INLAND EMPIRE | LOS ANGELES
MURRIETA | ORANGE COUNTY | SAN DIEGO | VENTURA COUNTY | ONLINE

Excessive daytime sleepiness associated with narcolepsy?



Being sleepy throughout the day is more than just a nuisance, it's a heavy burden. If you're narcoleptic and routinely find yourself feeling really sleepy during the day, you might suffer from Excessive Daytime Sleepiness, or EDS.

We're undertaking a research study of an investigational drug therapy for EDS associated with narcolepsy.

To qualify for this study, you must:

- be between the ages of 18 and 55
- be in generally good health
- have experienced excessive sleepiness in connection with a narcolepsy diagnosis
- not currently be diagnosed with a sleep disorder other than narcolepsy

Women who are able to become pregnant must use a medically acceptable method of birth control for the duration of the study. **Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding are ineligible for the study.**

If you qualify to participate, you'll receive the study drug and all study-related physical exams and laboratory tests at no cost. You may also receive compensation for time and travel.

For more information about this study please contact:
www.NarcolepsyStudy.com
Toll-free: 1-866-497-5211

@THE MOVIES

OPENING THIS WEEKEND



IRON MAN 2

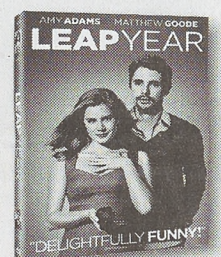
**ROBERT DOWNEY JR.,
GWYNETH PALTROW,
DON CHEADLE,
SCARLETT JOHANSSON,
SAM ROCKWELL,
MICKEY ROURKE,
SAMUEL L. JACKSON**

TOP 5 BOX OFFICE:

- A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET: \$32.2M+
- HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON: \$10.8M+
- DATE NIGHT: \$7.6M+
- THE BACK-UP PLAN: \$7.2M+
- FURRY VENGEANCE: \$6.5M+

MEDIA RELEASES

DVD



LEAP YEAR

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- TOOTH FAIRY
- ART & COPY
- THE BLUE TOOTH VIRGIN

SONGS TOP DOWNLOADS



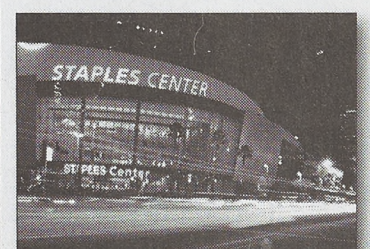
EMINEM

NOT AFRAID

ALSO:

- USHER - OMG
- SEAN KINGSTON & JUSTIN BIEBER - EENIE MEENIE
- JAY-Z - YOUNG FOREVER

CONCERTS & THEATER



- L.A. PHILHARMONIC: MAY 6-7 WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL
- PETER GABRIEL: MAY 7 HOLLYWOOD BOWL
- THE 39 STEPS: MAY 7-9 AHMANSON THEATRE
- JAMES TAYLOR & CAROLE KING: MAY 13-15 HOLLYWOOD BOWL
- 102.7 KIIS-FM WANGO TANGO: MAY 15 STAPLES CENTER
- RICKY GERVAIS: MAY 15-16 NOKIA THEATRE LIVE



**Child Care
Resource Center™**
Quality · Support · Development · Education

Every
child will
go home with a
FREE BOOK!

Annabelle Godwin Play Day

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010 ☀ **10 AM TO 1 PM**



Join us for a **FREE DAY OF FUN!**

Storytelling, hands on science, art, music & movement activities, outdoor fun, entertainment and much, much more!

**Los Angeles Valley College
Monarch Square**

5800 Fulton Avenue
Valley Glen, CA 91401

Call 818-717-1039 or visit www.ccrcla.org
for more information.

College Students Have Accidents Like Everyone Else...

INJURED?
Free Consultation



INJURED?
If You Don't Win,
You Don't Pay!

When the Accident Is Not Your Fault, You May Be Entitled to
\$\$\$ Compensation For Your Injuries \$\$\$

- Automobile/Truck Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Dog Bites
- Wrongful Death
- Other Serious Injuries



Grossman
LAW OFFICES
A Professional Law Corporation

- 30+ Years Experience
- Over \$100,000,000 For Our Clients
- Renowned State Wide

www.InjuryLawGrossman.com

800.462.5555

5950 Canoga Avenue Suite 325 Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Available 24 Hours

FOR THE LOVE OF TRACK

Women's track Coach Yannick Allain cares as much for his athletes as he does for the sport.

GIOVANNI GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

On a cloudy and cold April day, women's track and cross country Head Coach Yannick Allain can be found no place else than the track. In a generation in which winning is everything, Allain puts his athletes first.

"I approach them as my own kids, [I] look out for them off the field," Allain said.

Whether they need help perfecting their form on the track, need advice regarding an injury, or even need a ride home after practice, Allain is always there for support.

Coach Allain attended Fairfax High School where he holds the record of four by four in track and field. He went on to graduate from California State University at Northridge with a degree in kinesiology. Allain also taught physical active classes at CSUN. Allain has been with Valley for the last 10 years starting as an assistant coach, but would eventually become the



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR
ALL BUSINESS- Track and field Coach Yannick Allain prepares for practice.

head coach for women's track and field in 2005.

To spend an hour out on the field with Coach Allain is watching someone who is fully committed to doing what they love. The time and knowledge he puts in is noticeable from the start.

"Goes above and beyond with his athletes," said Terrance Spann who used to be one of Allain's athletes but now volunteers as a coach at Valley.

Winning isn't everything to Coach Allain. He gets satisfaction watching his athletes develop into better competitors. Allain doesn't just like to focus on the end result, but how hard the athletes have worked along the way. He finds different methods to help his athletes

achieve goals they never thought they could meet.

Though focused on winning, Allain will never put a victory over the safety of his athletes.

"He takes care of us and he doesn't over use us like other coaches," said Adriana Blanco a current athlete. According to Allain, he gets no better satisfaction than when his athletes break their own personal records and make it to the state championship meets.

Coach Allain is sure to make a personal connection with every athlete that joins track and field. He stresses to his athletes the importance of hard work and doing what they like.

"My goal is to get them ready for the next level," Allain said.

MONARCH PRIDE

The Monarch men's swim team end the season finishing 14th in the state meet held last Friday.

IVAN ZUNIGA
STAFF WRITER

Facing a lot of challenges this season the men's swim team set a variety of records during their conference and state championship meet.

The Monarch swim team competed in the Western State Conference Swimming Championship Preliminaries held at College of the Canyons on April 24. The team set two new school records in the 200-medley relay, with a new record of 1:39:43, and in 400-relay record, with a time of 3:37:24.

"We had some outstanding swims," said Jim McMillan, men's head swim coach. "We finished overall in third place in conference which is our highest finish in many years."

Several Valley swimmers set individual record times Gary Arthur, who finished fourth in conference in the Men's 100 yard butterfly with a time of 52:61, and in the 200 yard butterfly, with a time of 1:54:27, placed second in the meet. Also Kris Plavchyan finished third in conference in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 54:19 and second in conference in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:55:42.

Both Gary Arthur and Plavchyan qualified to compete in

two individual events: Arthur in the 100 yard butterfly, 200 yard butterfly and Plavchyan in 100 yard back stroke and 200-yard back-stroke. The team also qualified to compete in four relays including the 400-yard freestyle relay and 800-yard freestyle relay, 200-yard medley and 400-yard medley relay.

"This is the most people we have qualified for the state championships in quite a few years, for us to finish third against Ventura, which is one of the strongest teams in the state," McMillan said. "So overall we were pleased to finish in third place in conference."

Returning from the state championships last Friday at Mt. SAC, placing 14th out of 29 colleges with a total of 62 points.

Arthur took first place at state in the 200-yard butterfly (1:52:46) and also set a new school record for the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 50:67. Plavchyan finished in sixth place with a new school record of 52:41 in the 400-yard medley relay and set another school record in the 200-yard butterfly (1:52:37).

"We ended up finishing 14th of the whole state and there was probably around 30 plus schools there, and for the swimmers that we took, to finish 14th was outstanding," McMillan said. "So I'm very proud of them and all the hard work they did."

Ending their season with five new school records and returning with two individual state championships the men's swim team looks forward to a promising 2011 season.

ANALYZE THIS... LAKERS FANS NEED NOT WORRY

A tough series against the Oklahoma City Thunder left Laker critics falsely doubting the former champs.

LUCAS THOMPSON



Perhaps it's the constant need for perfection that drives Lakers fans to worry. Maybe it's our society's constant need for fast results right now. Whatever it may be, the veteran, World Champion Los Angeles Lakers know what they're doing, and Pau Gasol proved it.

An arena where they compare the decibel levels of the roaring crowd to jet engines, was the sight where the defending Champion Lakers gave up two games in the first round series against the Thunder, by margins of five and 21 points. This is where many began to worry ... this is where I, as a fan, felt most comfortable.

Just a year ago the same team on their road to the finals met the Denver Nuggets, a younger, faster, more excited team with little to lose and everything to gain in the conference finals. Heading into Denver for game four, up 2-1, the Nuggets handed the Los Angeles Lakers a stifling blow, beating the heavily favored team by 19 points, and tying the series at 2-2. In game six the Lakers went back to Denver and beat the Nuggets by 27 points and punched their ticket to the NBA Finals. For those of you who don't know, they took care of the Orlando Magic in five games outscoring them by 48 points in the series.

A veteran team like the Lakers with all-stars ranging from Bryant, Fisher, Artest and Gasol are all equipped with the most important and yet most underrated weapon any team brings to battle: intelligence.

An array of media blasts and speculations heading toward the purple and gold can be heard from all angles, criticizing their will to win, age, and inability to compete with the teams in the East. Really? Like the Magic?

Granted, the team is injured, fell short of their expectations for regular season wins, and struggled with an "eighth seed," but good or bad, the Lakers play to their situation. Young, fast, rookie teams like Oklahoma must play all out, fast break basketball every night ... or they have no chance.

The veterans the Lakers are stacked with are experienced enough to know when they can take a break and know when they "must" turn it on. It's the same reason your grandma gets out of more speeding tickets than you and eats free at Denny's on Tuesday, because they've got what's coming to them and they're patient.

If this isn't enough to comfort the "on edge" Lakers supporters, than number 24 should. Though his regular and post-season statistics have seen a decrease since last season, Bryant, who finished fourth in MVP votes, will without a doubt still come through in the clutch, and if he doesn't then Gasol will be there for the "off the rim assist."

"You can double him and try to make their big guys make a shot," Utah Head Coach Jerry Sloan said. "But you just have to play a little harder and hope he'll miss a few. ... He's learned a lot of tricks over the years, a lot of ways to score in a close game. It's a tougher task to defend him than almost anybody."

E-mail Lucas Thompson at L.thompson@lavalleystar.com
Send general comments to valleystar@lavalleystar.com

More Than Playing Fair

Sportmanship survives the times.

CRISTINA SERRATO
STAFF WRITER

"Unsportsmanlike conduct is a bad thing to see and learn at all levels," Valley Athletic Director Diedra Stark said.

Valley College's athletic department frowns upon unsportsmanlike conduct and holds high expectations for its' student athletes. And a large part of being a great student athlete, according to many of them on campus, is having a good sense of sportsmanship, using the ideals of ethical behavior, fair play and integrity with every game.

"Playing with someone who has no sportsmanship really sucks," said Monroe High School student, and avid soccer player, Angel Espinoza. "It makes you not want to play anymore."

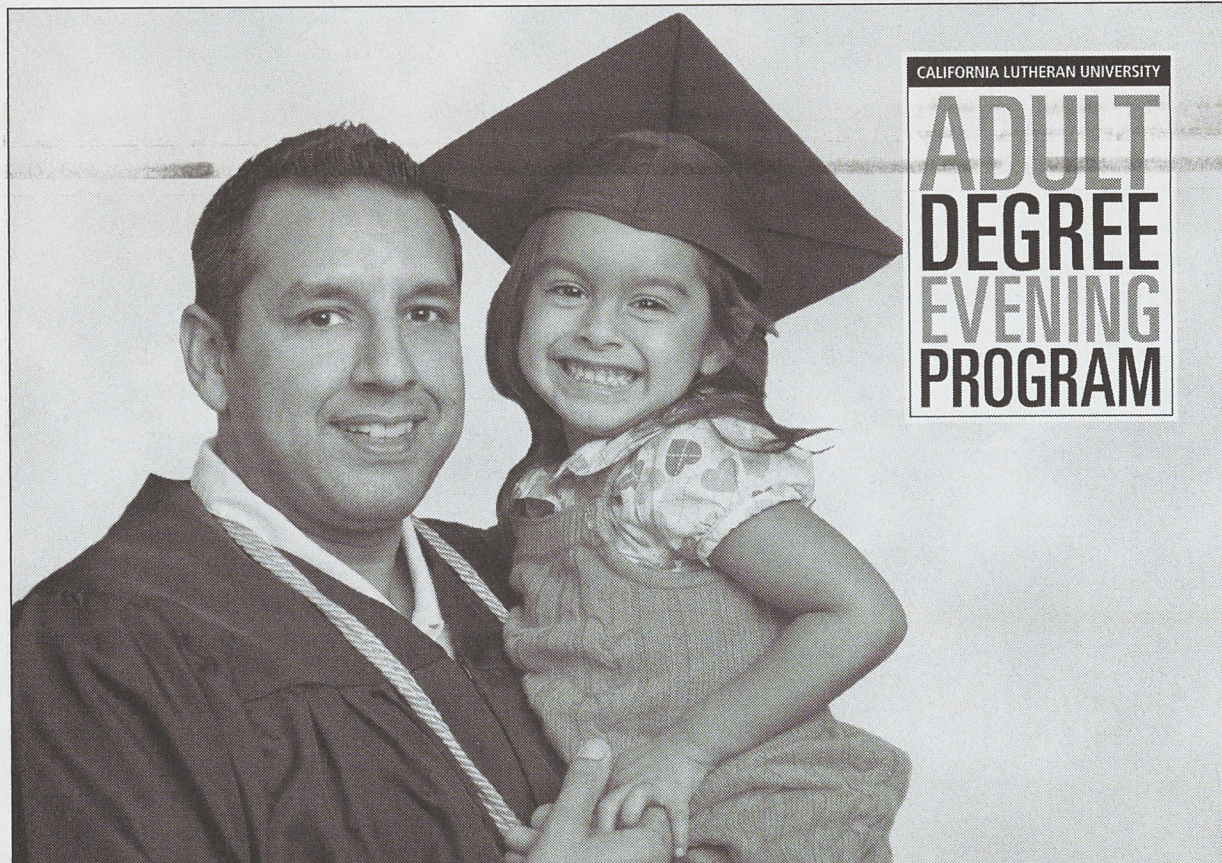
In order to combat unsportsmanlike conduct and encourage a sense of sportsmanship among athletes the Community College League of California's Commission on Athletics has placed penalties for players who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct during games. They may require that a player sit out a game, forgo the season, or receive a monetary penalty, depending on the severity of the offense and if it's the first or second. The Athletic Commission's policy does not allow room for a third offense.

"At the Community College

level there has not been a loss of sportsmanship, because the Athletic Commission has put into place rules ... to promote sportsmanship," said former Valley Athletic Director Chuck Ferrero. "There has been a big push in the last two decades at Community College level to promote sportsmanship and I think it has worked."

The NHL, NBA and WNBA all give out sportsmanship awards to athletes that exemplify the ideals of sportsmanship, regardless of how well the athlete played. The award's only requirement is to have shown sportsmanship throughout the playing season, according to NBA.com. Many other colleges and athletic programs are following their lead in order to encourage sportsmanship and offer awards of their own. Valley does not offer a sportsmanship awards for its athletes, but several departments do offer Athlete of the Week, Athlete of the Month and Athlete of the Year awards, given out at the end of the season and, like the NBA and WNBA's awards, the winner is chosen by votes from his and her teammates. All community college athletes are eligible to receive the CCCAA's Athlete of the Month award, which is done by nomination and determined by the CCCAA themselves, based on sports excellence.

Perhaps sportsmanship is best summed up in the words of the Lakers' own Shaquille O'Neal, "Excellence is not a singular act but a habit. You are what you do repeatedly."



CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
ADULT DEGREE EVENING PROGRAM

LEARN LOCAL. THINK GLOBAL.
THE CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY ADULT DEGREE EVENING PROGRAM

Our Bachelor's Adult Degree Evening Program has expanded to our Woodland Hills Center.

- Convenient, evening format to fit your busy lifestyle
- Accelerated 11-week terms
- Transfer up to 70 community college credits
- Recognition of the general education transfer curriculum (IGETC) to satisfy lower division requirements

BACHELOR'S DEGREES OFFERED:

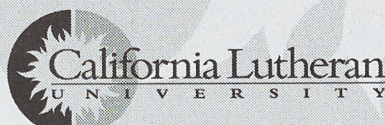
- Accounting
- Business Management
- Organizational Leadership

FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE

1.888.CLU-GRAD | www.callutheran.edu

THREE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS: THOUSAND OAKS, OXNARD AND WOODLAND HILLS

Make an appointment with Vanessa Chacon, Assistant Director of ADEP
Woodland Hills, at 805.493.3324
or vchacon@callutheran.edu



National Bartenders School

14418 Ventura Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
818-783-0300
www.bartendingworld.com
www.myspace.com/nationalbartending

DODGER FOOD CAN'T SWING IT

Dodger Stadium has held some of the highest attendance ratings for years. Unfortunately the food just doesn't cut it.

KATE HOLZHAUER
STAFF WRITER

To some Californians, there is nothing more perfect than spending a sunny Saturday at the ballpark eating and cheering on their beloved Los Angeles Dodgers. Unfortunately, this level of devotion does not match the quality of the food.

It's not that good food is impossible to find in a major league ballpark. Citi Field, AT&T Park, and Safeco Field all specialize in delicious high quality food, from perfectly grilled sausages to Dungeness crab sandwiches and slow-cooked pork tacos.

At Dodger Stadium, the most consistently good things to eat may be the reasonably priced, always reliable Peanuts and Cracker Jacks. Or, since it is California, Pistachios and Cracker Jacks. The peanuts are harder to find.

Some people's idea of culinary delight is packing themselves into the all-you-can-eat right field as soon as the food stands open, gorging themselves on Dodger dogs and bringing coolers to take as many of their beloved Dodger dogs home as possible.

While Dodger dogs are okay, (about 10 times better if you ask for them grilled and risk the wrath of the line of hungry fans behind you,) they aren't great. You can get a more flavorful hot dog from any one of the street vendors in Echo Park or Hollywood for about a quarter of the price. The nachos at most Dodger concession stands are mediocre, but there are good nachos at the various Camacho's stands scattered throughout the park. These are piled with guacamole and meat as well as the normal cheese, providing a flavorful, though artery-clogging, counterpoint to a small, watered down \$6 draft beer. A "premium" beer, while more satisfying, is twice the price.

Along with the classic concession stands, a large number of fast food restaurants have homes in Dodger Stadium. Carl's Jr, Panda Express, Wetzels Pretzels, South Street Philly Cheese Steak, and California Pizza Kitchen can all be found in the stadium, though their offerings are often cooked ahead of time and limited to their two or three most popular items. One can also find a couple of better specialty stands, but the Canter's Deli, fish taco, frozen yogurt, or gourmet sausage stands are harder to find. There are tons of Dodger dog stands, but only one Canter's deli and one concession stand that sells fish tacos, and one gourmet sausage stand, and they come with long lines. Dodger stadium consistently ranks amongst the highest in average attendance in the major leagues, but Dodger fans have a reputation of showing up late and leaving early to beat the traffic. Perhaps providing fans with better food and cheaper drinks will keep them in their seats and cheering through the end of the game.



#9



#8

STATE REGIONALS
BASEBALL PLAYOFFS GAME 1: FRIDAY 2 P.M. @ VALLEY
VALLEY COLLEGE MONARCHS (#8) VS.
RIO HONDO ROAD RUNNERS (#9).



VARUGHAN CHAPANIAN | VALLEY STAR

IT'S ALL IN THE SWING - The red-hot Monarch team practiced Monday in preparation for their state regional playoff game this Friday. The team, seeded number eight, had a 14-7 conference record.

HITTING ON ALL CYLINDERS

Monarch baseball captured the Western State Conference Division title and a spot in the state regional playoffs. The team will face Rio Hondo, number nine, in the first round this Friday.

LUCAS THOMPSON
MANAGING EDITOR

For a team that lost its first 10 games by a margin of 37-points, hearing the word clinch, unless talking about Head Baseball Coach Dave Mallas fists, wasn't something you would associate with Monarch baseball. That is until the team captured the Western State Conference Division Title and headed to playoffs.

Finishing the regular season with a 14-7 conference record, and a 15-19-1 overall record, the Monarchs found a way to improve offense, limit errors, tighten up defense, and most importantly win games. After a less than stellar beginning to the season, a mid-season turnaround evoked a confidence that carried the team where it counted: conference. This confidence was most displayed by their 8-10 record in the last 10 games of the season.

"Well for us I think it's just taking it one game at a time," Head Coach

Dave Mallas said mid way through the season. "These guys, they start looking two weeks ahead, and for them they need to stay focused in short term right in front of them."

Valley's 8-3 victory over West Los Angeles College last Thursday confirmed their number one spot in the division while giving them the eighth seed in the state regional playoffs. The Monarchs won by a margin of 7-6 in the last meeting with West L.A.

The team will face Rio Hondo in the State Regionals this Friday in what will be a best of three series against the ninth seeded Road Runners.

On top of the team achievements the Monarch club has accomplished this year, the Western State Conference also gave out several individual awards. Valley pitcher and third baseman Josh-Goosen-Brown, who had 33 hits and 21 RBI's, was named Southern Division player of the year. Valley Pitcher Adair Robles, who had a 3.32 ERA in the regular season, was selected as pitcher of the year. Fittingly for the turnaround season of the team, Dave Mallas was named Southern Division Coach of the Year.

"Don't worry about what happened in the past don't worry about the future just take care of today," Mallas said. "Keeping them in that sort of mind frame recently has been pretty good for them."

The first game takes place at Valley this Friday at 2pm. Game two will be held on Saturday at 11 a.m., followed by game three 30 minutes after game two if necessary. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and faculty

FIRST 10 GAMES:

VS.	SCORE
HARBOR	4-7 (L)
MOORPARK	0-8 (L)
EAST L.A.	7-8 (L)
IRVINE VALLEY	11-12 (L)
SANTA ANA	3-4 (L)
GOLDEN WEST	6-9 (L)
MT. SAC	6-9 (L)
CERRITOS	0-4 (L)
OXNARD	3-12 (L)
OXNARD	4-8 (L)

LAST 10 GAMES:

MISSION	7-1 (W)
WEST L.A.	9-0 (W)
WEST L.A.	7-6 (W)
CANYONS	10-9 (W)
CITRUS	8-6 (W)
PIERCE	10-15 (L)
GLENDALE	7-1 (W)
BAKERSFIELD	7-6 (L)
MISSION	12-4 (W)
WEST L.A.	8-3 (W)

NOTE: THE MONARCHS' FOURTH GAME AGAINST HARBOR WAS CALLED DUE TO DARKNESS. THE GAME WAS TIED 4-4 (NOT LISTED ABOVE).

MONARCH STADIUM BRINGS PRIDE TO VALLEY

With recent renovations, Valley's sports stadium is the icon of the college's athletics program.

CARL ROBINETTE
STAFF WRITER

There's something about standing in the middle of a wide-open stadium, even for a non-sports guys like myself that welcomes nostalgic thoughts. For some it's the massive hit they delivered playing for their high school team. For me it's leaving my dad by himself to watch the game on freezing cold aluminum bleachers, while I go make out with a girl named Colleen Hunt by the snack hut. Monarch Stadium dwarfs most high school stadiums, but it still delivers nostalgia with a punch

Originally built in the 1950s, the stadium had portions remodeled in 2005 and 2006—most notably the turf, which is now synthetic rather than sod and grass. The synthetic turf is made by Sprinturf and requires no watering, no fertilizer, no mowing and no lining for games.

"In essence, much less maintenance," said Valley's Sports Information Director Dale Beck.



SAMUEL OKSNER, PHOTO EDITOR | VALLEY STAR

THE BIGGER PICTURE - Local highschools gathered Monday to compete in a track meet held at Monarch Stadium. The stadium holds a variety of events.

"We save in costs and we save in resources."

Sprinturf is reported to be the largest developer and installer of artificial turf based in the US. In addition to saving Valley money the artificial turf is also a symbol of Valley's efforts to "go green." Beck quoted President Sue Carleo as saying it is "green going green."

The stadium is a source of

income for the school as many surrounding high schools, and film crews use the stadium at a fee for a variety of reasons. The remodeling features such as the 1,500-seat visitor's section and durable turf make it more of a draw to event organizers.

"It's something we feel the need to invest in," Carleo said. "Athletics is an important part of Valley College."

A number of problems with the old field inspired the upgrade. Because the field is used for multiple sports games and practices, and other various events, the grass used to be destroyed within a year. The new turf weathers much better. Also the track was made of hard-pack dirt before the remodeling. It is now a state-of-the-art, 10-lane raceway, and one of the few in southern California,

according to Beck. But Beck can't help but think fondly of the old football field.

"... Not to say I don't miss the old days of the mist rising on a cold autumn night from a grassy turf during a hard fought game," said Beck. "But I also remember games where the rain was hard, the turf was mud, and we couldn't see player's jersey numbers."